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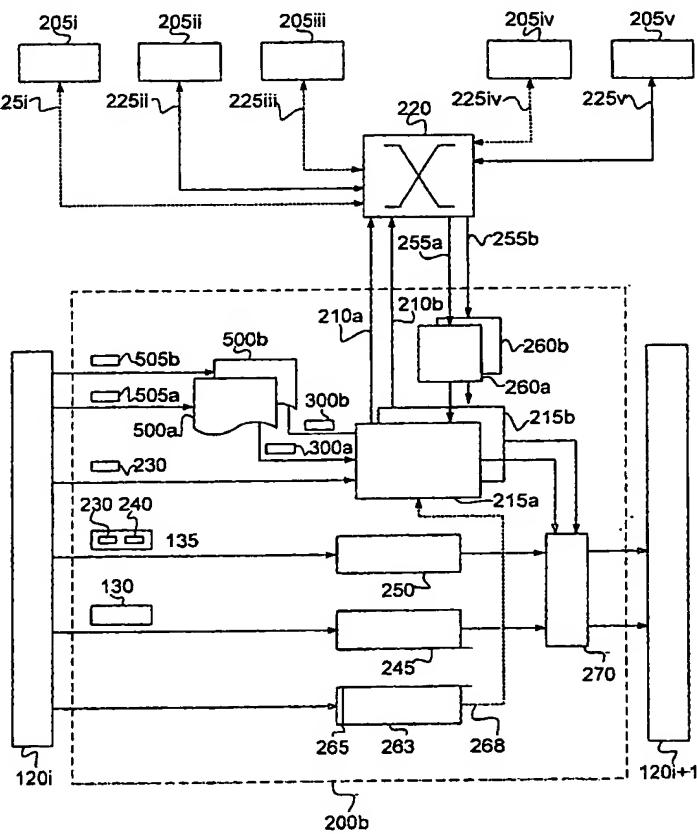
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PIPELINED PROCESSING OF DATA PACKETS



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method and apparatus for pipelined processing of data packets. A pipeline in a processor comprises an access point providing simultaneous access to one or more devices, said devices mainly for data processing operations not provided by the pipeline. The access point comprises at least one FIFO store for storing data entering the access point, a response FIFO store for storing responses received from the device(s), and a synchronisation mechanism adapted to synchronise the fetching of the first entry in the FIFO store(s) and the first entry in the response FIFO store. The synchronisation mechanism could advantageously be a fixed time delay mechanism. When the fixed time initiated by the fixed time delay mechanism has elapsed, the first response in the response FIFO store is merged into the data stored in the first entry in the FIFO store(s) for storing data entering the access point.



Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: G06F 9/38, G06F 15/76, G06F 12/00
 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: G06F, H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-INTERNAL, WPI DATA, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	WO 0161469 A2 (KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.), 23 August 2001 (23.08.01), page 2, line 31 - page 3, line 27; page 4, line 7 - page 8, line 31, claims 1-16, abstract --	1-24
A	US 6418497 B1 (GUTHRIE, G.L. ET AL), 9 July 2002 (09.07.02), whole document --	1-24

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19 August 2003**12-09-2003**Name and mailing address of the ISA/
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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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26/07/03

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26/07/03

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